

THIS HOUR OF VICTORY

V DAY has dawned. The first and by far the most important of the Victory Days in this World War has been celebrated. V E Day is the title our American Allies have given to this day of Victory in Europe. May V A Day signifying Victory in Asia be not far ahead.

At last the knell of the arch-enemy has sounded.

For Germany it is past twelve o'clock. That evil land which twice in this century has attempted to conquer the world goes down in final and utter defeat.

This is the ignominious downfall which for years those who have misruled Germany have been insisting could never happen. To inflict upon their neighbours that fate which had now befallen themselves every evil plan conceivable to the devilish ingenuity of wicked men has been framed. To consolidate the Nazi empire of hate and cruelty, every invention of the devil was arrayed. All that is worst in inhumanity has been displayed during these hectic years in order to compel the world to believe that the Nazis were the ordained rulers of mankind. To ward off the Nemesis which their intended victims have in the past year brought step by step to their homeland, millions of Germans have died in a blood welter of which history has no parallel.

The Onrush of the Free Nations

Those lies that bemused multitudes for a while by their audacity and cleverness carried with them their own doom which in the last historic weeks has been finally wrought by the triumphs of the arms of freedom. Nothing that the conspirators of cruelty and lust could do has been able to stem the sweeping onrush of the free nations, girded and equipped to give that answer in battle which the men of evil only understand.

Down the long road of "blood and toil, tears and sweat" the United Nations have moved in a sworn comradeship of dedication to a great cause. They have known the bitterness of defeat and of hope deferred. They saw one fair country after another overrun until it seemed that all the continents were being compelled to declare allegiance to the empire of evil.

YET hope and faith never faltered even in the darkest moments, and let it be written upon the scroll of Time that in the captive lands, too, the light of liberty was never finally extinguished. Evil did not conquer good. Freedom was never utterly destroyed. Men dared to believe in a day of liberation—a V Day—even when they were enduring persecution.

When Britain Stood Alone

In this hour of the downfall of German evil let it be noted, too, that Britain stood where she only could stand in the struggle—in the van of freedom. Many doubted her ability and strength to stand there in lonely peril while the hosts of Germany prepared for the final spring. That final swoop failed for reasons which history will in due time reveal, but in this hour of victory we remember with heartfelt pride that Britain stood, and

continued to stand, undaunted and resolute, through all the storms of war.

THIS splendid hour of victory, however, is not merely a call to us to look back on the past. It is not an hour merely to rejoice in the downfall of evil. That downfall was inevitable as long as the world kept alive some foundation of righteousness and truth. This hour of Germany's overthrow is the hour to understand what it means for the millions of ordinary men and women who have lived through these years of suffering and sacrifice.

It Must Never Happen Again

Their prime determination is that this dread experience must never happen again. That is a resolve which must be made unmistakably plain to the Germans themselves, and in language which they can understand and never fail to remember. The outward trappings of Nazidom will, of course, disappear from Germany, but we have to make certain this time that the seeds of wishful domination are not allowed again to grow and flourish. A new heart and a new purpose must enter into the life of those millions dwelling in the rich lands of Central Europe; and they must prove to all the world that the New Germany is a complete antithesis to the Old and of its own free will determined to become a land of peace and friendship.

WE cannot expect a new Germany to arise in a few months, or even in a few years. Her complete conquest now means humiliation and an infinite dismay which will gather momentum until it becomes a bitter flood of tears and distress for all Germany. It is the prayer of all men of good will that as a result of this experience a new nation may arise which will have cast off the garment of evil and be ready to weave a new mantle of righteousness and peace. Surrender is not only, therefore, the laying down of arms and the delivering to justice of the arch-leaders of the evil power. Surrender must mean also the abandonment for ever of that machinery of hate and poison which has produced such bitter tragedy in the midst of twentieth-century civilisation.

The Hour For Re-Dedication

But this hour of victory is a fateful hour not only for Germany, but for the United Nations. We need plain speaking to ourselves as well as to Germany. Now is the appointed hour of high resolve that these latter years shall not be wasted years of warfare, but fruitful years of noble self-offering which shall add undying riches to the world's treasury. Out of the pit of disaster we have by an indomitable purpose brought victory to pass. But our defeat of the enemy is not enough unless we mark it by a lifelong resolution to be worthy of the years of struggle which have issued in the victory. Such a moment is now ours.

THE bells of victory can only ring true as they ring us into new years of dedication to peace and friendship whose tale shall outshine all the splendours of the past and bequeath to generations unborn a heritage that wars shall not destroy.

CHILDREN'S
EVERY
TUESDAY
3d
NEWSPAPER
POSTAGE
Inland 1d
Abroad 4d
No 1365
FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE



BLOW, bugles of battle, the marches of peace;
East, west, north, and south let the long quarrel cease;
Sing the song of great joy that the angels began,
Sing of glory to God and of good will to man!
Hark! joining in chorus
The heavens bend o'er us!
The dark night is ending and dawn has begun;
Rise, hope of the ages, arise like the sun,
All speech flow to music, all hearts beat as one!



THE CRASH OF TYRANTS

THE overwhelming victory which the Free Nations have won over the satanic forces of Europe has been an event without parallel in the long story of the world. In our wildest imaginings but a short while ago we could not have pictured the crowded happenings in the war's last stages.

Future historians in their quiet studies recording the events of the past few weeks will doubtless be able to give a rational account of the stupendous Nazi debacle. For many of us the crowning news of the well-deserved fates of the cruel tyrants and the colossal disasters which have destroyed their forces has proved more than the mind can grasp.

Yet if the mind has been overwhelmed by the piling up of the events our hearts have been filled to overflowing with a transcendent joy. We have steadfastly endured the worst the forces of evil could bring against us, and we have beaten to the dust the monsters that set out to enslave mankind.

It is the unassailable unity of the Allied Powers which has been the essential factor in the final overwhelming of the Nazis. To the very last Hitler, Himmler, Goebbels, Doenitz, and the rest did their utmost to split the magnificent brotherhood in arms. Each of the Allies has had its full share in the honour which accompanies victory, a victory made certain by complete mutual confidence. It was indeed ideal justice that Berlin—"the heart of aggression," in Marshal Stalin's telling phrase—should have fallen to the Red Army which had battled its way to the centre for nearly three weeks, for it was the great cities of Russia that had experienced the full tragedies of the Nazi onslaught. The Red Army, too, cleared most of the Baltic coast.

The unconditional surrender on the Fourth of May of all the German Forces in North-West Germany, Holland, and Denmark to Field-Marshal Montgomery was the crowning

achievement of all the British effort in Western Europe. This Lueneburg capitulation was Montgomery's greatest hour. There was retributive justice, too, in the fact that the surrender included Germany's North Sea ports, for these were the main source of that navy which hoped to wrest the trident from Britain and of the U-boats which strove to destroy the sea communications between America and her Allies.

As to the Americans, when they stepped ashore in Europe on D Day they sounded the doom of the Nazis. Their General Eisenhower, as Supreme C-in-C, was the principal organiser of victory on the Western Front, and the American armies by their amazing forward surge through the Reich considerably shortened the campaign.

In all the spate of surrenders no event was received with greater satisfaction than the unconditional surrender to Field-Marshal Alexander of all the German armies in Italy and parts of Austria. Close on one million men laid down their arms to the victors in a long and arduous campaign, which, as the Field-Marshal said, will long live in history as one of the greatest and most successful ever waged. It meant the liberation of a country of over 40 million people, and the death of the dictator who had dragged them so low.

This scene of surrender had at least a dignity that was entirely lacking in the Reich itself where on Hitler's death chaos reigned among rulers and ruled—a chaos which did much to hasten the absolute collapse of the whole German State.

Scholarships For the Adventurous

It was in 1670 that Charles the Second granted a charter which originated the Hudson's Bay Company. This company was formed for fur trading with the Indians. In 1869 it agreed to surrender its land to the Dominion Government, and in return receive money and fertile land as well as a small piece of land adjoining each of its trading stations.

The Hudson's Bay Company's activities have continued without interruption; and the other day a luncheon was given in London to celebrate the 275th anniversary of the Company's Charter. Mr Churchill sent a message of good wishes and reminded the gathering that John Churchill was the Company's third governor.

AN IMPORTANT PROFESSION

THE C.N. hopes that dispensing chemists will find their rightful place in the national health service. Three of their professional organisations have submitted plans to the Government, including a proposal that a central body of dispensing chemists should be set up to advise the Minister of Health on their side of the health service, and to administer it.

Dispensing chemists are much more than handmaidens of the doctors. Their duties necessi-

tate a high degree of chemical knowledge and skill, and they carry great responsibility. Dispensing chemists dare not make a mistake, any more than surgeons, for the result of an error may be fatal.

The men and women who make up medicines and drugs are wizards in another respect; somehow, they succeed in deciphering the handwriting of some doctors for prescriptions which would baffle many an expert in calligraphy.

RAF Jubilees

THIS is a Silver Jubilee month for the Royal Air Force.

The R.A.F. itself is more than 25 years old, but two of its great permanent training centres were established just a quarter of a century ago. They are the R.A.F. Cadet College at Cranwell in Lincolnshire, and the establishment at Halton in Buckinghamshire for the training of apprentices in aero engineering.

Cranwell is the Sandhurst of the R.A.F., and its normal peacetime function is the training of officers for permanent commissions, and a great number of senior officers of the R.A.F. today were Cranwell-trained. Mr Churchill, then Secretary of State for War and Air, took the very first passing-out inspection of cadets at Cranwell. King George is to attend the Jubilee celebrations which are taking place on Wednesday, May 16.

Halton's great day will be on Friday, May 25, when the guest of honour will be Marshal of the R.A.F. Lord Trenchard, founder of the apprentice training scheme. Lord Trenchard has been called the Father of the R.A.F., and it is perfectly true that the high efficiency of the Service, both on the ground and in the air is very largely due to training schemes initiated by him, such as those at Cranwell and Halton.

RAF ACHIEVEMENT

FIGURES issued recently by the Air Ministry of enemy planes destroyed and of losses of our own aircraft in operations from airfields in this country since the beginning of the war and up to April 28, 1945, well illustrate the huge share in smashing Germany's war machine taken by the R.A.F. squadrons which are based in Britain.

Our home-based bombers have destroyed 759 enemy aircraft, our fighters have destroyed 6977, and aircraft of the Coastal Command 175.

During the war 7997 of our bombers have been lost in action, the Fighter Command has lost 2998 machines in offensive and defensive operations, and the Coastal Command 454.

This is the price the nation has had to pay first in defending itself against the Nazi Luftwaffe, and afterwards in helping to pound to dust the Nazi military Colossus.

The Road to Siam

THE desperate resistance of the Japanese at Pegu, 42 miles north of Rangoon, the recently-captured capital of Burma, was an indication of the great strategic importance of the town to the enemy. For through Pegu runs the only railway and road leading from this part of Burma to the neighbouring Japanese-held state of Siam.

With the fall of Pegu the Japanese scattered over all the wide delta country west of Rangoon, where the Irrawaddy river through many channels flows into the Gulf of Martaban, were cut off from their land escape route into Siam.

Relentlessly our 14th Army in Burma is clearing the country of the enemy and setting him on his long road back home to Japan.

LITTLE NEWS REELS

A POCKET watch for people who are both blind and deaf is now being manufactured. It tells the time by striking in Braille when pressed, the vibration of the strokes being felt.

Grand-Admiral Karl Doenitz, who has stated that he is Hitler's successor, was saved from drowning in the Mediterranean by a British sailor in the last war. The sailor lifted him out of the sea on the end of a boathook after the sinking of Doenitz's U-boat.

In the recent municipal elections in France Frenchwomen voted for the first time in the country's history. Nearly 14 million women voted.

L.C.C. Education Committee are urging the Ministry of Education and the Board of Trade to release more paper for printing schoolbooks.

A new record for civil flying has been set up by a Lancastrian mail plane, which flew the 13,380 miles from Britain to Auckland, New Zealand, in 53 hours 13 minutes flying time.

A prize memorial poem to the late Earl Lloyd George is among the subjects for the Welsh National Eisteddfod.

A tabby cat at Lincoln has died at 27, the equivalent in age to a man of 162 years. The average life of a domestic cat is eight to ten years.

Liberation News Reel

THE U.S. 45,000-ton super-carrier which was recently launched is named Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Brussels intends to present honours at a public ceremony to the British regiments which liberated the city.

Our troops at Bremen captured 16 big ocean-going U-boats.

An improvement is reported in the conditions of Allied prisoners-of-war in Hong Kong.

Major-General Sir Ernest Cowell, the surgeon, who developed the air ambulance system which saved the lives of 1000 wounded men in North Africa and Italy, is to receive the Freedom of Croydon, where he lives.

To deal with the hundreds of thousands of foreign slave workers liberated in Germany, 21 major reception centres at strategic points have been established, and are assisting 40,000 people daily.

British merchant seamen released from prison camps in Germany are allowed double civilian rations during their first six weeks here. They are repatriated in the same way as members of the armed forces.

Youth News Reel

THE Scout Gilt Cross has been awarded to 11-year-old Patrick Anthony David Sheen, of the 3rd Chalkwell Bay Scout Group, Essex, for his gallantry in helping to rescue two small boys from drowning in a brook at Westcliff-on-Sea.

The Board of Admiralty have given permission for Admiralty-Recognised Sea Scout units to fly a special burgee. This is triangular in shape, of blue bunting, with the Scout Badge in gold surmounted by the Admiralty crown.

All American Scouts and Cubs who collect 1000 pounds of paper will receive a medal bearing General Eisenhower's likeness; and all Troops and Packs collecting 1000 pounds for each member will receive a used shell case.

Miss Peter Ady is the first woman to work as a Fellow under the Colonial Research Fellowship scheme. She has gone to the Gold Coast to make a close study of conditions there.

A woman gunner, Sergeant Barbara Bowers, has been awarded the BEM for her gallantry in defending Britain's coasts against planes and flying bombs.

SUPPLIES of specially concentrated orange juice will be available for children between five and ten up to June 30 this year. The price is fivepence a bottle and one bottle every fortnight is allowed.

The first Emergency Training College for new teachers has been opened by the Government at Alnwick Castle, Northumberland. There are 30 student teachers there already, and the number will be increased to 130.

To preserve the natural state of the district, and to consider its future, an investigating committee has been set up in the Norfolk Broads.

Out of 634 fires in England during March, 190 were caused by children playing with fires, 211 by unattended bonfires, and 233 by careless smokers.

The beautiful Clumber Estate in Sherwood Forest has been saved for the nation.

At Moosburg, the biggest P.O.W. camp in Germany, General Patton's men liberated 110,000 prisoners. At four German civil internment camps 2406 British subjects, civilians, were liberated by Anglo-American forces. Of the civilians, about 1500 were Channel Islanders.

A gold medal and an address of thanks have been presented to the International Red Cross in Greece by the Academy of Athens in gratitude for the work of the Red Cross in supplying food and relief to Greek civilians during the German occupation.

THE V.C. has been posthumously awarded to Jemadar Parkash Singh, a Dogra from the Northern hills of India. In Burma this Indian officer continued fighting the Japanese single-handed although he was badly wounded in both legs, and in intense pain. He died shouting the Dogra war cry.

Only a few food shops and stores in London were damaged by rocket bombs. The damaged establishments contained 15,000 tons of food, and of this amount only 300 tons was lost; the rest was recovered by salvage operations.

made of waste paper, bearing a citation signed by General Eisenhower.

A member of the 17th Acton Scout Group now serving with the Forces in Greece has visited the 6th Athens Troop, and he reports that during the German occupation the Scouts of this Troop did their "good turns," including the feeding of 200 poor children.

An open tin full of petrol was kicked on to a fire of debris on a bombed site, and Alfred Rigby, of the 68th London Coy, Boys Brigade, realising the danger, seized the tin and threw it clear. In doing so he was seriously burned himself, but his action saved several children from injury; he has been awarded the B.B. Diploma for Gallant Conduct.

SPRING WEATHER FREAKS

ALTHOUGH the weather at the end of last month was the coldest in April for about fifty years, it is likely that this summer will be a hot one, for the records show that warm weather such as we enjoyed at the beginning of the month often precedes a sunny summer.

Nevertheless, we shall remember how the Clerk of the Weather played an April Fool trick on us this year. Only old people can remember such queer extremes in April. Temperatures ranged from 80 degrees in the shade in the early weeks to 30 degrees later. Tropical heat declining into bitter winds with hail and snowstorms must have made our many overseas visitors think it no wonder the British are a hardy people with such a puckyish climate.

However, we may still look forward to a glorious summer.

TRIBUTE

SOME time ago a number of shipwrecked Chinese sailors landed at a British port where they asked the local Y.M.C.A. if they could provide accommodation. This was done, and a welcome fire and gallons of hot tea awaited them when they arrived at the Y.M.C.A. rooms. They dried their clothes and they had enjoyed the good hot meal. One of the Chinese came forward to express thanks:

"I know you, yes. You Christian gent in all countries."

VENEZUELA'S OIL

BRITISH enterprise is playing a big part in the development of oil in the South American Republic of Venezuela.

One company has obtained sufficient plant for the drilling of fourteen new oil wells, the work on which, it is hoped, will be completed early in 1946.

THE SOUNDS OF HOME

IN many delightful ways the BBC keeps individual members of our Forces Overseas in touch with their homes. Here is a characteristic example. A leading aircraftman of the R.A.F. stationed in Cyprus hears his mother in his home town playing his and her favourite old English tune of The Bells of St. Mary's from the Carillon Bell Tower of St. Mary's, St. Helens. The BBC have recorded her rendering of the tune on the bells, and it is broadcast to the Forces.

Such typical home-like sounds bring much comfort to our men who have been abroad, in many cases, for several years.

The Park Gates Reopened

THE beautiful and ancient Richmond Park, Surrey, with which so much Royal history is associated, has been reopened to pedestrians, with the exception of a few fenced enclosures.

This park of 2250 acres was closed during the war years because it was there that a secret experimental station for the handling of unexploded bombs was installed. Lord Suffolk (who was posthumously awarded the George Cross) lost his life there in 1941, by the explosion of a large bomb.

Richmond Park has made its contribution to the war effort in

A Million Square Miles of Trees

THE war, with its shipping problem, has caused a desperate shortage of timber in this country, and among sources of future supply Canada should take a high place.

The vast forests of Canada cover an area of 1,220,400 square miles which is nearly 14 times the size of Great Britain. One-third of Canada is covered by trees, and of these deep forests a little over a third are at present being used for the production of timber. More of the forests will be used as the Dominion develops roads and railways into what are now inaccessible regions. Long before the lumbermen have exhausted Canada's huge reserves of trees, it may be presumed that new forests will have

grown in place of those cut down.

In Canada's wide and silent woodlands there are over 130 different species of trees which are divided into hardwood and softwood. The softwood trees are the coniferous ones, such as Douglas fir, various kinds of pines, spruce, western hemlock, and western red cedar. There are 33 distinct varieties of these softwood trees, and they compose three-quarters of all the trees in Canada and supply nearly 80 per cent of the wood used for all purposes.

Some of the uses of the wood of these conifers are for making all kinds of furniture, for all woodwork in the building of houses, for matchboarding, tele-

graph poles, railway sleepers, ships' decks and masts, and—one of the most important—for the supply of pulp for making paper like this on which these words are printed.

Among Canada's hardwood trees, found mostly in the Eastern provinces, are, birch, maple, and elm. Their durable wood has many uses, such as that of the elm in making wheels, birchwood in shipbuilding, and maple in cabinet-making. The sap of the maple tree provides sugar and syrup.

Softwood trees, however, with their multifarious uses, are Canada's chief timber asset, and they comprise the principal reserves of softwoods in the British Empire.



Elephant Meets Tank

This elephant has just been rescued from the Japanese in Burma by the crew of the Sherman tank. The intelligent old tusker is obviously glad of the change and gratefully accepts biscuits from the commander of the tank who is standing in its turret.

WRENS AND WRINS

OUR gallant WRENS have a sister service in the Women's Royal Indian Naval Services, known of course as the WRINS. Three of these Indian girls, officers in the WRINS, came to Britain recently to study methods of training and administration in the WRENS. The WRINS wear no hats and they look graceful in long naval tunics, collars and ties, and saris reaching to their feet. They work with the Royal Indian Navy which last year had ten sloops, two corvettes, 14 minesweepers, as well as a number of auxiliary vessels.

RED CROSS TOWN

WHEN French troops entered Constance recently they found the city comparatively undamaged, for the Allies had respected the work of the Red Cross which had been carried on there and had neither bombed nor shelled it.

Constance, situated on the Rhine where the river leaves Lake Constance, is one of Germany's most ancient cities. Part of its cathedral dates from the 11th century. The city is famous in history for the great ecclesiastical council held there from 1414-18 to restore union in the Catholic church and suppress the doctrines of John Huss who was burned at the stake there.

WHAT IS JATO?

JATO stands for Jet Assisted Take-Off and is the name given to a rocket-like mechanism fitted to US flying boats to enable them to take off in half the normal time, thus greatly reducing the stress on the aircraft in the process of leaving the water.

In the operations at Iwojima the big twin-engined Martin Mariner flying boats were able, aided by Jato, to take off in conditions which ordinarily would have sprung the planes' hulls.

HEALTH LECTURES

THE Scottish Council for Health Education has appointed a psychiatrist, Dr J. Greene Nolan, of Edinburgh, to conduct a Health-for-all Campaign throughout Scotland during the next six months. His talks will be illustrated by health films, and he will discuss such topics as the mental aspects of sleep, rest, and worry.

Dr Nolan is not concerned with dealing with actual illness, but with showing how to preserve and improve health.

Accountants and the Universities

THE keeping, checking, and understanding of accounts is something more than just adding up figures. It is a highly skilled profession, upon which almost all business depends for financial correctness.

A committee representing Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities and professional accounting bodies have proposed, in a report which they have made, that there shall be better facilities at our universities for educating would-be members of the accounting profession.

The committee suggest that it should be possible to obtain, within five and three-quarter

THE ELUSIVE DAHLIA

AMONG gardeners the dahlia is just now one of the treasures on which high hopes are centred. It is at the end of May and the earliest days of June that the tubers are planted, to yield their lovely blooms during the months that follow until the coming of late autumn's first sharp frost. Experts grow dahlias from seed, but the novice contents himself with simply cutting up the tubers and setting each fragment that has an "eye"—just as potatoes are propagated.

The dahlia is Sweden's gift to us; it came here in 1789, named after Andrew Dahl, the Swedish botanist. He would rub his eyes in astonishment if he could see the enormous number of varieties, shapes, colours, character of petals, and general appearance that cultivation has effected since his day. There is a limit, however, to botanical ingenuity. We have dahlias of every colour of the rainbow except blue.

MORE TALKING BOOKS

FOUR Shakespearean plays recorded by Americans are part of a £1000 gift of talking-books sent to the National Institute for the Blind by the British War Relief Society of the U.S.

These plays and most of the other works comprising the gift are said to be popular among the American blind, who have a strong liking for the English classics. The gift also includes five books of the Old Testament and Thomas à Kempis' Imitation of Christ.

PAT THE PARROT

A PARROT known to all the American Navy as Pat, which went through the Spanish-American War on board the battleship Indiana, has just died at an age estimated at over 100.

IN THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

A LETTER from an eight-year-old schoolgirl has been given pride of place in the captain's log of HMS Hesperus. It was written by Joan Humphries, of Marston Manor Junior School, Yeovil, which has adopted the destroyer unofficially, and it contained the message: "We don't want you to sink, so in the morning we sing for God to save all those in peril on the sea."

The destroyer Hesperus has steamed nearly 230,000 miles since she was commissioned in 1940. She has sunk a number of U-boats and has caused serious damage to many others.

years, both a university degree and a professional qualification in accountancy, and that, of this period, about three years should be spent in acquiring practical experience and the remainder in a university.

The committee add that, in their view, a student should not serve in an office and at the same time study for a university degree.

It is understood that there are hopes of the committee's scheme being put into practice, next October, in the Universities of Birmingham, Bristol, Durham, Leeds, London, Liverpool, and Manchester. The taking of such a course will be entirely voluntary,



Off to Catch the Elvers

These four Gloucestershire lads are going to spend the night catching alive young eels which frequently come up to the Severn in swarms at this time of year. Their catch will be taken to the Elver Depot at Epney, from which the eels will be sent to be released in various British rivers.

A PRISONERS-OF-WAR CAMP SCHOOL

AMONG the many inspiring deeds of our men in this war is the organisation by our prisoners-of-war of schools in their camps in Germany. The "prospectus," made by a prisoner, of one of these schools at Stalag Luft VI, is a document that will live in history as an example of the triumph of the human spirit over adversity.

This report on The Royal Air Force School for Prisoners-of-War, copies of which are on sale to the public here at two shillings, has been done by the artist, Sergeant James Lambert, in the manner of an illuminated medieval manuscript, and readers will marvel at the artistry of the document when they consider the difficulties under which the prisoners-of-war had to work.

These young men of ours in Germany, condemned by circumstances to be prisoners-of-war for many years, decided, in the words

of the report, "that there are things of the mind unbounded by time and place, and that captives may escape beyond the barbed wire into the fields of knowledge and delight"; so they set themselves stout-heartedly to study in order to fit themselves to take their places in civilian life after the war and also, as the report says, "to provide a distraction from boredom and an antidote to mental stagnation."

The way they succeeded is an inspiration to all students for all time. They started with nothing—they had to use their margarine ration as "fat-lamps" by which to study—they found teachers from among their own numbers, and books were sent to them by the Red Cross.

Indeed, it may be claimed that for a man simply to put the letters POW after his name may well be a guarantee of intellectual achievement.

A New Kind of Illustration

A VERY large number of the advertisement pictures which we see in trains on the Underground and elsewhere are printed by a method known as "silk screen." Although by no means new, certain important improvements have recently been made in printing through silk stencils, which are making their mark on the art of illustration.

Silk can now be sensitised with a photographic film and exposed under a negative; after the silk is developed it is washed in hot water, leaving a perfect stencil in which the clear parts are open silk and the dark parts are closed up with the gelatin of the film. Several thousand prints can be made from such a silk stencil, and beautiful work is being done in several colours by using a number of stencils.

So far, however, all these pictures are like woodcuts, or

line designs. But by the new method it is possible to make a silk screen stencil in half-tone, that is to say, having an image composed of thousands of tiny dots which are to be seen in examining the photographic illustrations in the CN through a magnifying-glass. So instead of being able to print only specially-drawn pictures, the silk screen will now reproduce ordinary photographs in all their detail. A new means of illustration has therefore become available, and it will be of value for such things as school and church magazines and catalogues, where only a comparatively small number of copies is wanted. The method is very cheap as compared with ordinary half-tone illustration engravings, and the printing can be applied to curved surfaces, glass and porcelain, and fabrics.

The Revolutionary Engine

INABILITY to use their motor vehicles and planes was one of the chief elements in the defeat of Germany. The supplies of natural oil having been cut off, and the plants producing petrol artificially having been destroyed by bombing, her internal combustion engines were deprived of fuel.

The defeated hosts must have felt it an irony that it was a countryman of their own who produced the first internal combustion engine for the propulsion of vehicles, from which the vast multitude of successors and variants sprung. That man was Gottlieb Daimler, a native of Schöndorf, in Würtemberg, who, born 111 years ago, came to England as a young man and worked at various engineering shops to gain experience in his craft as an engineer. He returned to Germany to apply his acquired knowledge to the industry of his native land. It was he who in 1886 invented the first engine to use oil by internal combustion.

The fastest engine of the time was the gas engine, with its 250 revolutions a minute. Daimler made a lighter engine, with the speed of revolutions more than trebled, and was assured that his invention would either fly to pieces under the pressure and vibration, or burn up. It did neither. Daimler applied his invention to a bicycle, which he rode for three years before making a better engine. From those two descend all the engines of cars, tanks, planes, submarines, and the thousand and one purposes and contrivances that the internal combustion engine now serves for civil and warlike purposes alike.

THE WORLD'S FOOD

THE task of feeding the world during the next year or two is presenting some weighty problems. Lieut-Colonel Olmstead, Director of Supplies, United States War Food Administration, has reported that there will be plenty of wheat available, but that milling and transport are going to be major difficulties.

There will be a world shortage of fats and oils, and of sugar, too.

Lieut-Colonel Olmstead has pointed out that the main reasons why sugar is in short supply are that supplies from the Philippine Islands have been cut off and are not likely to be resumed before late in 1946, and that more than 700,000 tons of sugar were used in 1944 in the manufacture of synthetic rubber.

A Valuable Poison

A VALUABLE asset to Ceylon's trade will be the strychnine factory which is being built by the Ceylon Department of Commerce and Industry. This factory will be capable of producing 2000 lbs of strychnine every year, enough to poison at least fourteen million people!

Strychnine, however, is used in very small doses in medicine. It is made from the seeds of the Nux Vomica tree which grows in Ceylon. The poison can also be obtained from the St Ignatius bean-tree found in Cochin China and the Philippine Islands.

EDITOR'S TABLE

NEMESIS

NEMESIS has overtaken the Dictators! Within a few days of the humiliating end of Mussolini came the announcement of Hitler's death in Berlin.

Adolf Hitler was Satan personified. To him the German people gave powers such as no other tyrant of a civilised people ever wielded. Not only did they make him head of their military forces and of their government in all its aspects; they agreed to his declaring himself above the law, so that he could overrule, not only the military High Command, but parliament, and even the judges. Never in all her long servile obedience to authority had Germany conceded authority so terrible to her autocrats as she rejoicingly placed in the hands of this cruel, ill-educated fanatic.

He used his powers to plunge the whole world into bloodshed, and to make the country that regarded him as a god the land of the infamous concentration camps, the horror and shame of all humanity.

Now Hitler's day is ended like that of his junior partner in the greatest crime in all history, and the world is a sweeter place without them.

Last Year's Babies

THE Registrar General has given some good news.

He reports that, while the birth rate for 1944 in England and Wales was the highest since 1925, the mortality rate for babies (46 per 1000) was the lowest ever recorded. This speaks well for the care given to mothers and infants during a period when the war was at its height and is a tribute to doctors, nurses, and all concerned.

Increased birth rate and lower infant mortality mean that we may look to the future with even greater confidence.

CARRY ON

A Say in Everything

It is not only in the rose,
It is not only in the bird,
Not only where the rainbow glows,
Nor in the song of woman heard,
But in the darkest, meanest things,
There always, always something sings.
Tis not in the high stars alone,
Nor in the cups of budding flowers,
Nor in the redbreast's mellow tone,
Nor in the bow that smiles in showers,
But in the mud and scum of things,
There always, always something sings.

Emerson

School Planning

SOME welcome words about school planning were spoken at a conference arranged by the Royal Institute of British Architects, the National Union of Teachers, and the Association of Building Technicians.

Mr W. G. Newton, an architect, said that his profession would have in mind sunshine and colour-gaiety and would plan a school as "an encampment of learning, grouped round the assembly hall, as a little medieval hamlet clustered round its church."

Mr Newton criticised the habit

Goodbye—and

WITH the disbanding of the war organisation of Civil Defence a familiar figure disappears from the wartime scene.

Although Civil Defence consists of more than the Warden's branch, the Warden's duties had brought him into closer and more continuous contact with the people as the war has run its long course. In the early days the Warden's advice was sought concerning the preparation of a shelter room or the fitting of a gas mask; when the blitz came, a friendly call while enemy planes were droning overhead and the Ack-Ack barrage was at its noisiest was much appre-

Under the E

A SCARF covered with musical notes has been invented. Rather loud.

PETER WAN KN

WHAT is the ideal nurse's uniform? somebody asks. depends on what is the ideal nurse.

SOME people like to get their photograph in a newspaper. Others prefer a bit of fish.

IN future we shall get more of our meals from tins. If we can.



If the girl next to me dined

The Friend

THERE are persons who cannot make friends. Who are they? Those who cannot be friends. It is not the want of understanding or good-nature, of entertaining or useful qualities, that you complain of; on the contrary, they have probably many points of attraction; but they have one that neutralises all these—they care nothing about you, and are neither the better nor worse for what you think of them. They manifest no joy at your approach; and when you leave them it is with

High Road to Happiness

HE can only have the highest happiness, such as goes along with being a great man, by having wide thoughts, and as much feeling for the rest of the world as for ourselves.

George Eliot

g and Building

of some school authorities in requiring unrestricted public tender for all school buildings; and accepting perhaps the lowest offer from an unproved and inexperienced firm. "Who would select," he commented, "a headmaster from a list of men with no qualifications, the criterion being the lowness of the salary he was prepared to accept?"

The C.N. hopes that our school authorities will take these words to heart. What may be saved in money is often much more than lost in beauty and finish, and in benefits to the scholars.

I Thank You

ciated by the lonely or elderly; and when an "incident" occurred he, or she, was soon upon the scene with help.

We shall miss the Warden's urgent knock on the door and his warning that we have too much light showing!

Yes, the Wardens will be missed, and if they and their comrades of the other C.D. services are happy that their long task is ended, their happiness is shared by a grateful nation. Their stand-down signifies the passing of a great shadow.

Ladies and gentlemen of Civil Defence, we thank you!

ditor's Table

PUCK TO OW THE way to gain prosperity is to give people their heads. And tell them to keep them.

HOMES of the future will be dustless. That is not so dusty.

A COLLECTOR stays up all night to catch moths. And often only catches a cold.

AN old man says that his grandchild does him more good than medicine. And doesn't have to be shaken.

less Ones

a feeling that they can do just as well without you. This is not sullenness, nor indifference, nor absence of mind; but they are intent solely on their own thoughts, and you are merely one of the subjects they exercise them upon. They live in society as in a solitude; and, however their brain works, their pulse beats neither faster nor slower for the common accident of life. There is, therefore, something cold and repulsive in the air that is about them—like that of marble.

William Hazlitt

GOD'S LEAD

LET us go forward. God leads us. Though blind, shall we be afraid to follow? I do not see my way; I do not care to; but I know that He sees His way, and that I see Him, Charles Kingsley

When the Boys Come Home

MR ERNEST BROWN, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and formerly Minister of Labour, brought out an important point when he spoke at Luton the other day.

The biggest headache for Britain, he said, will be the reinstatement of Servicemen in their peacetime jobs. The office boy of 1939, added Mr Brown, may now be a lieutenant-colonel on the battle fronts.

This problem is a very real one. War service abroad can make a power of difference to a young man's outlook and inclinations.

Plenty of imagination and common sense will have to be used in adjusting such difficulties as these.

A Whitsuntide of Prayer

MILLIONS of our citizens will be responding this Whit Sunday to the call for united prayer made through the World's Evangelical Alliance by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the other leaders of the Christian Churches of Britain.

Our Christian leaders emphasise in their appeal that: "Those forces of evil let loose by war: immorality, hatred, greed, selfishness, and many others, will still be active in the days of peace." They fully recognise the tremendous problems of peacetime that now begin to confront us and they say, boldly in their appeal:

"We issue this letter for Whitsuntide because we believe that the situation is beyond human solution... We suggest therefore that, through the Churches, there be an appeal to all Christian people to pray earnestly for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church, the nation, and the world."

JUST AN IDEA

As George Eliot wrote, *Beauty is part of the finished language by which goodness speaks.*

Life of Content

A COUNTRY life is sweet! In moderate cold and heat, To walk in the air, how pleasant and fair, In every field of wheat, The fairest of flowers adorning the bowers, And every meadow's brow; So that I say, no courtier may Compare with them who clothe in grey, And follow the useful plough. They rise with the morning lark, And labour till almost dark; Then, folding their sheep, they hasten to sleep; While every pleasant park Next morning is ringing with birds that are singing. On each green, tender bough, With what content and merriment Their days are spent, whose minds are bent To follow the useful plough.

Robert Herrick

The Farmer's Log

A WEST-COUNTRY son of the soil sat down the other evening and made a list of some of the duties which year in, year out, fall to his skilled and patient hand.

The list is by no means complete as there is always an assortment of jobs to do down on the farm, and everybody knows the farmer's work is never finished. Even so, the list is illuminating because it shows how accomplished a man must be if he can display fine skill in such a variety of tasks and make a success of them.

This is the farmer's workaday log: Sheep shearing and dipping, milking, ploughing, rolling, harrowing, drilling, hay and corn harvesting, threshing, pulling and carting mangolds, hedge paring, hoeing, potato planting and digging, hand sowing of fine seeds, forestry, thatching, turf hedging, manure spreading, tending flocks and herds, midwifery in the lambing pens, repairing gates and outbuildings.

The Proper Way

To do all these things and much besides, there is a proper way—the least fatiguing way and the way that brings results. There is a way, for instance, to plough for winter wheat so that the rains and frost do not rot or kill the seeds. There is a way to plough for potatoes so that the ground is loose about the tubers. There is even a way to carry a fork full of straw, to master a fractious animal, and to load the hay wain. In fact, every simple and small task needs a certain amount of proficiency.

All through these years of war husbandmen of Britain have brought their skill, priceless knowledge, and unstinted labour to bear in resurrecting our farmlands from bankruptcy and infertility. The amazing contribution to the war effort by these craftsmen of the good brown earth has saved us from hunger and shown us anew that our land is the one inexhaustible national asset we possess.

The last entry on the farmer's list is "clerking." This duty comes at the end of the day's work afield when he takes pen in hand, enters up his account books, and completes the various agricultural returns and forms which the postman brings. Yes, there is always a job waiting to be done down on the farm!

THE THREE M'S OF EDUCATION

IN the old days people associated education with the "three R's"; now, as the watchword for our post-war education drive, Mr Butler, the Minister, has given us the three M's. These, he explained at a recent meeting of the County Councils Association, were: Manpower, Materials, Money.

Manpower means teachers, for 25 per cent of our present teachers are past retiring age or are married women, and 20,000 are in the Services.

Materials are those necessary for restoring our blitzed schools and building new ones; and as to Money, Mr Butler said that 20 million pounds is to be spent on increasing the pace of Britain's educational advance.

GERMANY IN 1918—AND TODAY

THE later stages of the war in Europe may have seemed long-drawn-out to some people. But a vast organisation like the German military machine, embodying the bulk of the nation, does not come easily to a stop; it runs slowly to disaster, though the final collapse may come with dramatic suddenness.

So it was with the 1914-18 war. As with Hitler in our time, Ludendorff, the German Generalissimo, was confident, until July, 1918, that Germany would be victorious. He told the Kaiser that before the Americans could take the field in numbers he would defeat first the British Army, and then the French, and after that turn to Russia and there instal a thoroughly pro-German government—which must be an interesting reflection for Marshal Stalin today.

This dream of Ludendorff's was ended by a shattering British victory on August 8, which he described as the blackest day of the war. After that Ludendorff saw that he could no longer hope to dictate peace, that he could but at best expect to wear out the Allies by protracted defence. On October 28 Germany sought an armistice, which became effective on November 11. Germany had enjoyed four months of victory earlier in the year before the tide finally turned, but it took three months, once she had been finally checked, before the Allies succeeded in compassing the end.

Hitler had drugged Nazi Germany with the falsehood that Germany was not defeated in the

field in 1918, and so inspired them to fight this still more calamitous conflict. What that army, which he said was not beaten, actually yielded the Allies as the price of peace was as follows: The evacuation by Germany of France, Belgium, Alsace-Lorraine, and Luxemburg, and the surrender of 5000 light and heavy guns, 25,000 machine-guns, 3000 mine-throwers, 1700 aeroplanes, 5000 locomotive engines, 150,000 railway wagons, and 5000 motor lorries. Though some of these figures may appear small in this war of masses of equipment they were truly colossal for the warfare of 1918.

Moreover, Germany had to give up all her submarines, and to hand over to the victors 6 battle cruisers, 10 battleships, 8 light cruisers, and 50 destroyers, while the rest of the German vessels of war had to be disarmed. The war vessels reached Rosyth on November 21, 1918, and were sunk by their German crews seven months later.

This time there is no question of an armistice on the lines of 1918. The terms are Unconditional Surrender, with the complete destruction of Germany's military power and evil political institutions.

American Houses For Britain

SOME years ago it was considered a wonder when an ancient house was dismantled in Britain, its bricks, tiles, and beams all numbered, sent across the Atlantic, and re-erected in America. Now the U.S.A. is to send us houses by the thousand, and the first of these prefabricated bungalows, manufactured in America and supplied to us under lend-lease, has been erected and privately shown in Hertfordshire.

It is a neat, cream-and-white painted bungalow with wide windows and a modern entrance hall. Inside there is a living-room of 151 square feet with a stove; two bedrooms with built-in wardrobes and polished floors; a kitchen with a gas stove, clothes-boiler, and sink; and a bathroom.

The bungalow is delivered in six crates. 30,000 of these houses will be sent here by next spring.



THIS ENGLAND

A quiet corner of the village of Little Houghton, near Northampton

A TRAGEDY OF HEROISM

IN the best-known grave in Westminster Abbey sleeps the Unknown Warrior. Another memorial in our national shrine for ever celebrates the occupant of an unknown grave.

This memorial with a relief of a ship in the ice bears the inscription:

*Not here, the White North has
thy bones; and thou,
Heroic sailor soul,
Art passing on thy happier
voyage now
Towards no earthly pole.*

The words are Tennyson's; the man they celebrate, his kinsman, Sir John Franklin, who on May 19, one hundred years ago, sailed from Greenhithe, Kent, with 134 officers and men in the Erebus and Terror, to seek the North-West Passage, a quest from which neither ship nor man returned.

Franklin, a Lincolnshire man, born in 1786, before commanding this expedition had taken part as a lad in the Battle of Copenhagen, and, when 19, had come unscathed through the Trafalgar triumph; he had been a successful colonial governor, and had eaten his boots in the starving days of a great exploration of Arctic North America. When it was suggested that he was too old for his final Arctic adventure he replied: "My lord, I am only 59!"

After quitting home waters the little ships were encountered, two months later, by a whaler in a Greenland bay, and then there fell a silence never broken. Franklin was provisioned for three years, so not until 1848 did a search for him begin. During the next ten years more than a dozen expeditions, at a cost of over a million pounds, went seeking the lost men. Little by little the story was pieced together. Eskimos were found who told

of seeing the ships in the ice, of men staggering overland dragging a boat, and falling dead as they toiled. Along the coast of King William's Land relics, human and other, were discovered, and in a cairn built near Victory Point a written record from one of the vessels, telling of the imprisoning of the ships, of their being abandoned and sunk by the ice, and stating that Franklin had died on June 11, 1847.

Year after year explorers found new fragmentary evidence of the sad fate of the crews, of their deaths one by one from scurvy or starvation—a dreadful story. But there came to light the sadly triumphant fact that Franklin, by sailing farther west than the point previously reached from the east, had discovered the North-West Passage! But in life and suffering the cost exceeded that of all other Polar exploits.

During the war years the North-West passage has been sailed in three months. The Erebus and Terror set out 100 years ago prepared for a three-year voyage.

Improving Glasgow

THE City Engineer and Master of Works of Glasgow, Mr Robert Bruce, has prepared a huge 50-year plan for the post-war redevelopment of the city.

The main features of this great plan are the rebuilding of nearly all of Central Glasgow, with the removal of the three main railway stations and concentration of traffic in two main stations (North and South), and arterial roads on which pedestrians would not be allowed.

Russian Law on Property

THE law relating to the inheritance of property in Russia has been changed recently.

There are still some people outside Russia who think that no one is allowed to possess property in Russia because everything belongs to the State. It is true the State owns all wealth-producing property such as factories, mines, and so on, but all kinds of personal property, savings, furniture, cars, clothing, and thousands of other things, are private to their owners.

If the owner dies without making a will, the new law directs that his property must be divided among his children, wife (and parents if they are incapacitated), and any other incapacitated persons who were dependent on him for at least one year prior to his death.

On the other hand a Russian is allowed to make a will leaving his property to some particular person in his family, or to State bodies, but in this case his children who are minors or who are unable to work must receive their due share.

If a man or woman has no legal heirs he may will his property to whomsoever he pleases.

This new law, states the Russian Supreme Soviet, is aimed at "protecting the rights of citizens, protecting the rights of owners of personal property, and strengthening the family."

HOTEL TROGLODYTO

THERE will be no overcharging at Ramsgate's latest hotel, the Troglodyto, designed to tide the town over a period when there is acute shortage of accommodation, for a modest half-crown will provide visitors with sleeping facilities consisting of a bunk and blankets in a two- or three-bunk cubicle with hot and cold water laid on—and slightly less for children!

The Troglodyto is the fourth chapter in the history of the town's disused railway tunnel. In its earliest days the Southern Railway operated a line through the tunnel to the beach; next an electric scenic railway replaced it; then the tunnel fell into disuse. But with the Battle of Britain in 1940 much-raided Ramsgate found security in its tunnel, which became one of the town's main shelters and accommodated as many as 40,000 people.

The hotel scheme has been approved by the local council, who have accordingly leased the tunnel to a company, subject to the sanction of the Ministries of Works and Health.

It is planned to accommodate some five hundred people in this novel hotel, which will have a reception lobby, cloak-rooms, a sick-bay, and its own doctor. The place will be well-lighted and ventilated and will provide work for a staff of 24. It is not intended to enter into competition with established boarding-houses and hotels, but to provide a sleeping place for those visitors who cannot find anywhere else to go.

The name of this hotel is, of course, derived from that given by the ancient Greeks to tribes who dwelt in caves



Bruno Lends a Mouth

Some dogs just learn to skip, but Bruno of Ashfield in Northern Ireland goes one better and takes his turn at holding the rope. There's no need to find a third child to make up a game with Bruno in the family.

THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK

Post Haste, by Ivor Halstead (Lindsay Drummond 7s 6d).

HERE is the story of the most remarkable business in these islands—the Post Office. Every one of us is a customer, whether it be to buy a penny stamp or a savings certificate, to deposit our earliest savings in its bank or to draw our old age pension, to speak on the telephone or buy a wireless licence. And, likewise, we are all shareholders, for this great profit-making concern belongs to the nation.

After telling us something of the history of the Post Office—its development from the days when a few letters were carried by men on foot or horseback—Mr Halstead takes us through the days of the blitz, and we marvel that this great machine

was able to carry on with its numerous services. The maxim, "The mails must go through" applies equally to telephone and telegraph communication, the payment of pensions and bill-paying allowances, and a hundred and one other items. Many tales, both grave and gay, illustrate the spirit which enabled this to be done.

It is the postman's rat-tat! with which we are most familiar, and we are told that in a recent period of a year no fewer than 6290 million letters, weighing 100,000 tons, were delivered, as well as 198 million parcels weighing over 300,000 tons.

After reading this book, which is well illustrated, the local Post Office will never again appear to us a dull, unromantic place.

Young Farmers from the Towns

AT the annual meeting of the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs the other day Mr R. S. Hudson, Minister of Agriculture, made a rousing call to all youth interested in farming, including town boys and girls, to join that movement.

"Every boy or girl," he said to the meeting, "whether he is the son of a farmer, a farm worker, a barrister, a butcher, a bus driver, or any other worker in the country, should be welcomed with open arms by your movement, provided that he has the desire to learn and know more about agriculture and country things."

Mr Hudson added:

"We want young and fresh blood in agriculture, young farmers and farm workers, burning with enthusiasm, willing to

learn, willing to experiment, and not afraid to try new ideas. And what a wonderful field it is in which to seek new methods and build on past experience."

It was reported at the meeting that, in 1944, there were 1068 young farmers' clubs in this country, with a membership of 56,000.

These young farmers' clubs, as the CN has often urged, are a splendid means of fostering young people's interest in progressive agriculture, an industry of the first importance, which will only play its proper part in Britain if young brains, enthusiasm, and enterprise are enlisted to the full. Mr Hudson's invitation to town boys and girls is timely, for agriculture will need all who are willing to make farming their life's work.

THE RED CROSS AND THE ASKARI

CHEWING-STICKS, picture scrap-books, and handicraft materials are included in the Red Cross parcels sent to British East African soldiers who have been wounded in the Burma fighting.

This may sound a curious mixture, but the people at home in East Africa—Europeans as well as Africans—know the tastes and habits of the Askari overseas. The chewing-stick, for example, the African's toothbrush, is partly responsible for his famous

dazzling smile. The picture scrap-books (often made by school-children in East Africa) are for those who have not as yet learned to read the African books and newspapers regularly provided. The handicraft materials will keep the invalids interested, exercise their muscles, and perhaps teach them a useful trade or pastime.

In this way the Red Cross is helping to look after the health and happiness of the splendid British African soldiers.

BEDTIME CORNER

Brownie Visits the Blacksmith



MANY times had little Beth stood outside the blacksmith's shop and watched the sparks fly up as he hammered out the red-hot bars.

But she never ventured inside. The noise and the heat rather terrified her.

The kindly blacksmith seemed to understand, for he often looked up for a moment to give her a nod and a smile.

But that was before Beth's pony lost a shoe.

Beth loved her pony, and though her father told her it wouldn't hurt him, she couldn't bear the thought of hard, sharp nails being driven into his hoof.

She crept out into the

stable and ran her hands through the pony's soft mane. "They shan't hurt you, Brownie," she said.

That afternoon, as she was walking in the lane, who should come along but the blacksmith.

He nodded as he passed, and said: "How's the little pony?"

"He's lost his shoe," answered Beth.

"Well, you bring him along to me," said the blacksmith. "He shall have a new one."

"But that's just it," exclaimed Beth, "I don't want him to have a new one. I can't bear to think of anyone hurting him."

"Bless you, I won't hurt him!" said the blacksmith. "You bring him along and see."

And so when Daddie took Brownie to the little shop at the bottom of the village street, Beth went too.

"Brownie doesn't mind a bit," said her father. "See how still he stands. A pony's feet are not soft like ours; they are hard and horny."

And then at last little Beth understood.

Now she often pays a visit to her new friend, but instead of standing outside she goes in and talks to him.

CHURCH LINKS WITH RUSSIA

IN the twenty years before the First World War there was a growing friendship between the Anglican Church and the Church of Russia, which was the most prominent branch of what is known as the Greek, or Orthodox Church.

The Church of Russia was dis-established after the revolution of 1917, but in recent years its spiritual influence, never defeated, has become stronger in that country, and once again friendly relations are being established with the leaders of the churches in our own country.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Fisher, has recently sent a message to the Patriarch of the Russian Church, hoping that before long Britain may have the honour of welcoming a delegation from the Russian Church. Ever since the Archbishop of York visited Moscow in 1943, at the invitation of the leaders of the Russian Church it has been certain that at the earliest possible date a Russian bishop will visit Britain.

The present head of the Russian Church is the Patriarch Alexei, who was installed on February 2, 1945. He was in Leningrad during the siege, and has been specially decorated for his courage.

The Patriarch was one of the three church leaders whom Marshal Stalin interviewed when the Russian Patriarchate was restored in 1943. The others were Sergius, the late Patriarch, and Nikolai, the Metropolitan of Kiev.

Dr Nikolai is especially interesting to us in Britain because it is expected that he may be the bishop who will come to Britain. When he was a student in St Petersburg before the last war, he welcomed four English bishops to the college where he was

studying. He was also the first to welcome the Archbishop of York to Moscow when his plane arrived at the airport. Marshal Stalin has appointed him a member of the war crimes commission, the only churchman to hold an official State position.

At Kiev Dr Nikolai lives in the birthplace of Russian Christianity. It is a city of churches, and before the German occupation it was a very beautiful city with its golden cupolas.

Writing in the Soviet War News about friendship between the churches of Russia and Britain, Dr Nikolai says: "The rapprochement of the two churches was to a considerable extent due to Birkbeck, that enlightened Englishman who paid frequent visits to Russia during the second half of the last century, first with the special object of studying the structure, life, and form of service of the Orthodox Church, and then, in his own words, in order to take part in the prayers of the Orthodox Church festivals, particularly during Passion week and Easter. Russian churchmen of the time called him 'the friend of the Orthodox Church.' On his return to England after each of these visits Birkbeck, in lectures and books, acquainted members of the Church of England with what he had learned of the Russian Orthodox Church."

Dr William John Birkbeck was a distinguished layman who accompanied Bishop Creighton to the Coronation of Tsar Nicholas in 1896. In the previous year he had published a book entitled *Russia and the English Church*.

Dr Nikolai went on: "The present war against the evil forces of Hitlerism has shown the two churches' complete community of attitude to the brutal common foe. This community of feeling unites our churches in sacred wrath. We have a common belief in the ultimate triumph of light and truth over the darkness and abomination of Nazi banditry. The exchange of messages between the heads of our churches has, raised to greater heights the friendly relations between our two churches."

This Year's Academy

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS, as Alfred Drury, the sculptor, modelled him, once again stands in the courtyard to welcome visitors to the Royal Academy. Let us hope that he is now firm on his pedestal for all time.

As we have more than once declared in the C.N., the war has never checked the enthusiasm of our painters in landscape for the lovely scenes of our countryside, and again this year we have Reginald Brundrit, R. O. Dunlop, Lamorna Birch, Bertram Priestman, C. R. W. Nevinson, and many others of equal distinction setting forth its manifold beauties.

The English Scene is, indeed, the title of one of the paintings by Sir Alfred Munnings, the President. He has chosen Selworthy as his viewpoint of country given by Sir Richard Acland to the National Trust, with sun-splashed elms in the foreground.

Gerald Kelly's full-length State portraits of the King and Queen have been given the place of honour in the long gallery. Among other portraits of distinguished men and women, those of Field-Marshal Montgomery, in a grey-blue jersey, by James Gunn, Field-Marshal Smuts by Simon Elwes, and Dr Clive Forster-Cooper, Director of the Natural History Museum, by Meredith Frampton, stand out prominently. In contrast with these is a rare little study of a blue-eyed boy holding a green apple—a painting by Mrs Dod Proctor, who has caught well his look of wonder.

Far more vivid in colour are the children painted by A. K. Lawrence. Every boy and girl will like to meet his Robert, Tom, and Andrew Bell. The Academy has, indeed, a wealth of child studies this year.

Illustrating the nation's concentration on the war-effort, Dame Laura Knight has once again displayed her own vigour and efficiency in *The Test*, which shows three mechanics proving the strength of metal work, and in *Skill*, which is a sincere tribute to the man in overalls.

There are a hundred more exhibits this year than in 1944. As we left the well-filled sculpture gallery our eye was caught by the magnificent bronze head of an Italian, perhaps the last work of the late Alfred Drury.

A CALL FROM TRISTAN

THE world's loneliest island, Tristan da Cunha, is again needing a chaplain to serve the two hundred people who inhabit this volcanic rock in the Southern Atlantic.

During the war Tristan has been a meteorological station serving the Navy and the South African Forces, and a chaplain has been on the island, watching over the welfare of this remote settlement of the British Empire.

A volunteer, with a wife if possible, is now asked for by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to do three years' service on this island. The chaplain has to be schoolmaster for the forty-odd children on the island who are all descendants of Glass, Swain, and Cotton, British soldiers who settled on Tristan about the time that Napoleon was living at St Helena fifteen hundred miles away, the nearest inhabited land.

When Napoleon went to St Helena in 1815, Tristan was occupied by British troops in case it should be used as a base to effect his escape. At his death the troops were moved, but Corporal Glass and his two friends, with wives from St Helena, remained and became the founders of the island community.

Strong and vigorous in health the Tristanites love their volcanic rock with its peak rising to 8000 feet and its many bays and beaches. But theirs is a hard life. Their diet is mainly potatoes, birds' eggs, and fish. If one of the mountain sheep is killed there is a feast day, and a man's wealth on Tristan is counted in the number of sheep he has.

The parsonage in which the new chaplain will live is a small

frame house nineteen feet long with two rooms in it. The islanders make it a point of honour to supply him with food and never fail to see that he gets a good share of the fish and the sea birds' eggs.

Tristan cottages are mostly low, built of stone with thatched roofs, and they snuggle into the sides of the mountains which protect them from the great rainstorms of the South Atlantic which are always sweeping over the island.

Tristan is in many ways a remarkable example of practical "communism." All land is held in common, but a man may cultivate a patch for himself and may own his own house. All clothing, stores, provisions, and money, if there is any, coming into the island are divided equally, and when fifteen men were lost in a boating disaster in 1886 special provision was made for their widows and children. That disaster wiped out all the able-bodied men of Tristan except four, and nearly wrecked the life of the lonely community.

Black oxen pull the roughly-built carts over the tracks on Tristan, and the men have built their own boats out of wood which has drifted ashore. They have also built a lighthouse and a hospital, and made a landing-field for aeroplanes. Tristan is a happy, well-ordered community and seems to be afflicted by only one plague—and that is a plague of fleas which resist all efforts at extermination.



EVERY SLICE—

is always nice

HOVIS

BEST BAKERS BAKE IT

Macclesfield

SSAFA NEEDS £1,000,000

THE welfare of the millions of our fighting men and their families is an intensely human problem which cannot be solved entirely by Government schemes. Voluntary links between our soldiers, sailors, and airmen and their families at home are, therefore, an essential service if the job is to be done properly.

The Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Families Association have been performing this noble service since 1885, and in a letter to *The Times* the association have now made an appeal for £1,000,000 for the expansion of their work, which has grown to mighty proportions. The association say that they are relied upon by the Forces everywhere to handle their family

problems, and that a great partnership has developed during this war between nearly 2,000,000 families and the SSAFA.

The association have 20,000 voluntary workers in the United Kingdom, and representatives wherever there is a theatre of war overseas. These workers endeavour to remove worry and anxiety about their families from the minds of all serving men and women. For the expansion of this particular work the association require £250,000. They require £500,000 for increasing the number of their Emergency Children's Homes, of which there are now fourteen.

The remaining £250,000 is needed to re-establish serving men and women in civil life.

Her teeth are YOUR concern-

Every mother wants her children to grow up with strong, firm white teeth, safe from the danger of decay. The way to make sure of this is by giving the right care when they are young. Dentists advise the use of

the one toothpaste containing 'Milk of Magnesia', which corrects acid mouth, so often the cause of dental trouble.

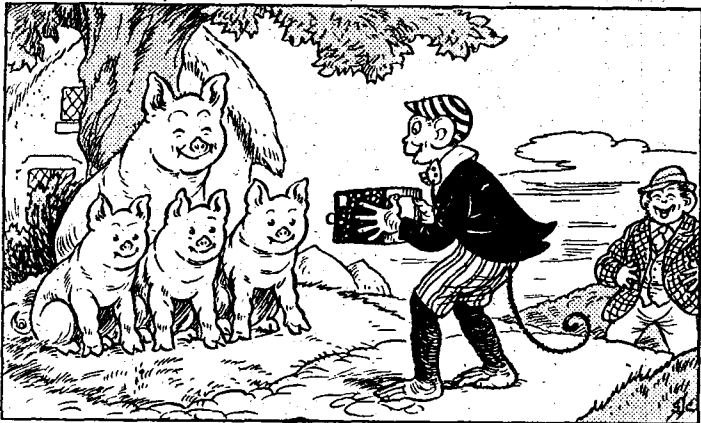
The toothpaste to ask for is Phillips' Dental Magnesia. Train your children to use it night and morning. They love its pleasant, mild flavour.

1/1d. and 1/10½d.



* 'Milk of Magnesia' is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.

The Porkers Pose For Jacko



JACKO is spending an afternoon trying to get a prizewinning picture for the local exhibition of photographs to be held at Whitsun. The Porker family are delighted at the prospect of appearing in the great exhibition. They group themselves curl their tails with pleasure—like Jacko's—and put on their happiest grins. "Upon my word, Jacko, you've got a prizewinning porker portrait there," laughs the farmer.

MOST OBLIGING

"I SAY, taxi, I have an hour to wait at this wretched station; will you drive me round your little town?"

"With pleasure," replied the taximan, who in earlier days had been a cab driver. "If I can find my reins and some harness to fit you."

A Good Catch

Put a reel of cotton—white because it will show up best—in an inside pocket; then with a needle thread two or three inches through to the outside of your coat.

Someone is sure to try to pick it off before very long, and imagine the surprise when it is found that the more it is taken away, the more there seems to be left!

MAKING SURE

"Do hurry, - Billy," called mother from downstairs. "It is long past the time for you to get up."

"Well, mother, wouldn't it be better for me to stay in bed until the time comes round again?"

A Queen's Last Letter

BEFORE mounting the scaffold Anne Boleyn, who was beheaded on May 19, 1536, wrote these words to Henry VIII, her faithless husband who had had her condemned on the evidence of paid witnesses:

You have ever taken care to raise me to high estate, and to-day you do not lose sight of that aim; from simple gentlewoman, you made me Marchioness of Pembroke; from marchioness you made me queen; and from queen you now raise me to be among the saints.

A CLOCK PROBLEM

IF a clock takes six seconds to strike six o'clock, how long does it take to strike twelve? Most people will say twelve seconds, but the actual time taken is 13-1/5 seconds.

When the clock strikes six there are five equal periods of time between the strokes. This gives 1-1/5 seconds for each period. In striking twelve there are eleven such periods, and 11 multiplied by 1-1/5 is 13-1/5.

The BRAN TUB

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Why the Ash Leafs Late. The May sunshine was quite hot, and Farmer Gray and Don, who had walked a considerable distance, were glad to rest in the shade of a massive Oak tree. "Everything is forward this year, Don," remarked the farmer. "It is seldom that we would get so much shade from an Oak at this time of the year. The Ash trees are in leaf, too; sometimes it is June before their leaves show."

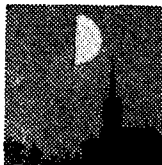
"Why are they so late?" inquired Don.

"Because their wood is very hard," was the reply.

"In trees such as Oak, Ash, and Walnut, the sap runs slowly, consequently they bloom late."

Other Worlds

IN the evening Saturn is in the west and Jupiter is in the south. In the morning Venus is in the south east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 9 p.m. DBST. on



Saturday May 19.

A PIGGY JOKE

AN elderly piggy of Stoke Wore a bonnet that startled the folk

Who gazed at the sight And exclaimed with delight, "What a funny old pig in a poke!"

Nothing to Worry About WIFE, agitatedly: Wake up quickly, Joe, there's a burglar downstairs.

Husband, sleepily: That's all right, dear, he'll get nothing here but practice.

Children's Hour

Here are details of the BBC broadcasts for Wednesday, May 16, to Tuesday, May 22.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 The Meter Burglars, a thriller, by Eynon Evans. 5.55 Prayers.

THURSDAY, 5.20 Three Poems by Ian Serrallier—The Three Bears, The Cat and the Fiddle, The Hen and the Carp. 5.50 From America—South American songs sung to guitar by the Brazilian singer, Olga Coelho.

FRIDAY, 5.20 Beau Brocade, the story of a Derbyshire Highwayman, by Baroness Orczy, adapted for broadcasting by Joan Littlewood. Produced by Nan Macdonald. Part 3—Brassington.

SATURDAY, 5.20 The Fair County of Perthshire, by Isabel Adam and John Keir Cross, in the Scottish Counties series.

SUNDAY, 5.20 A Whitsuntide programme of verse, story, and music, chosen by Geoffrey Dearmer. Readers: Cecil Bellamy, Mac, and Elizabeth. 5.50 A short Whitsun service.

MONDAY, 5.20 Variety.

TUESDAY, 5.30 Hen Rules the Roost, a Play by Beatrice Keston. Produced by May E. Jenkin.

Formosa Facts

A LARGE fertile island taken by the Japanese from China in 1895, Formosa, or Taiwan, as it is called by its inhabitants, is 90 miles from the nearest point on the East China coast. The island is 235 miles long and about 80 miles wide. Mountains, the highest 14,270 feet high, run through the centre, the cliffs of the east coast are the highest known in the world—3000 feet sheer up from the water. The west coast is flat. The climate is hot and damp. Vegetation is luxurious.

The population of 5,872,084 consists mostly of Chinese, with aboriginal Malayan or Negrito tribesmen. Japanese settlers number 299,280. The capital is Taihoku, population 340,114.

Products include tea, sugar, jute, turmeric, camphor, and coal. There are 646 miles of railway. Japanese is the official language, but Chinese is mostly spoken.

Whimpering Will

WILLIE whimpered in a whirling whistle the wish the wicked witch whispered.

What the Trees Give Us

THE HOLLY is used in place of ebony for wooden handles for metal tea pots because it stains well, also for inlaying and for walking sticks.

Birdlime is made from the bark.

The tree is often planted for hedges as it clips well and makes a good fence, but, of course, its most popular use is for Christmas decorations.

LONG OVERDUE

"My girl has arranged a little piece for the piano," confided Mary's mother to her next-door neighbour.

"Splendid!" was the reply. "I am all in favour of a little peace."

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

History in Hiding
Canning, Peel, Fox,
Walpole, Gladstone,
Pitt, Bacon.

A Puzzling Word
Alphabet

GIVE	SAVE
AMENITY	Y
LANDS	ERA
EGO	ORAS
IMPLEAD	
AN	MA
NET	TODAY
O	ELEVATE
NONE	AXES

SAVINGS RHYMES



Old King Cole was a wise old soul
Deep in his pocket he dug
To save more money week by week
And diddle the Squander Bug.

BUY
SAVINGS
STAMPS

SAVINGS REASONS

Buying Savings Stamps at 6d., 2/6 and 5/- is the easy way to save.

They may be exchanged for National Savings Certificates or used to make deposits in the Post Office or a Trustee Savings Bank.

Savings help to win the war.

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL SAVINGS COMMITTEE

Joan is so full of fun

Always getting up to something. So high spirited too. Taxes all your energy to keep pace with her. But in your heart you know her health is all that matters. Like all wise mothers you agree that when needed, a dose of 'California Syrup of Figs' will soon correct stomach upsets and regulate the system. It is the natural treatment for children—the laxative they like. 'California Syrup of Figs' keeps them well and happy.



"California Syrup of Figs"